WWC:EED IV-5

U. S. DEPARTIENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS · WASHINGTON

Letter Circular LC-760

July 29, 1944.

(Supersedes Letter Circulars Nos. 235, 429, 511 and 549, and Form Letter, LC113.)

INFORMATION ON ULTRAVIOLET TRANSPARENCY OF WINDOW MATERIALS AND FABRICS

Data on the ultraviolet transparency of various kinds of glass and organic substitutes for window glass (Vitaglass, Sunlit, Helioglass, Uviol Jena, Neuglas, Corning Corex D, Quartz Glass, Celoglass, Cellophane, Tracing cloth, etc.) are given in Bureau of Standards Research Paper, RP113, entitled, "Data on Ultraviolet Solar Radiation and the Solarization of Window Materials", which is obtainable from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 15 cents a copy, prepaid. Supplemental data are given in the accompanying table.

Data on the transparency of various kinds of fabrics, feathers, etc., to ultraviolet radiation, are given in a paper entitled "Transmission of Ultraviolet Radiation Through Various Kinds of Fabrics", BS J. Research 1, 105 (1928); out of print; on file in your nearest regional Government depository library.

Data on the depth of penetration of radiation of various wave lengths (ultraviolet, infrared) are given in a paper on "Spectral Characteristics of Light Sources and Window Materials" published in Trans. Illum. Eng. Soc., vol. 23, p. 251 (March 1928). See also "Handbook of Physical Therapy", American Medical Association, 535 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, 10, Illinois; and "Radiation and Climatic Therapy of Chronic Pulmonary Diseases", edited by Edgar Mayer, 1944.

Data on the Variation of ultraviolet solar radiation with altitude, latitude, time of the day and season of the year, are given in Bureau of Standards Research Papers, RP318, "Measurement of Extreme Ultraviolet Solar Radiation by a Filter Method"; RP370, "A Balanced Thermocouple and Filter Method of Ultraviolet Radiometry with Practical Applications"; and RP877, "Evaluation of Ultraviolet Solar Radiation of Short Wave Lengths", obtainable from the Superintendent of Documents at 10 cents each, prepaid.

In order to insure effective biological action of sunlight, the Council on Physical Therapy (Journal, American Medical Association, vol. 95, p. 864, 1930; reprint revised November, 1931) requires, for acceptance, that the transmission through window glass and substitutes for window glass, after complete solariza-

tion, shall not be less than 30 per cent of the incident radiation at wave length 302mu (standard thickness 2.3mm). The Federal Specification for ultraviolet transmitting glass has similar requirements (Federal Specification DD-G-476, March 29, 1932; obtainable from the Superintendent of Documents, at 5 cents a copy, prepaid).

TABLE

Percentage transmission of various window glasses at 302mu, when new and after exposure at a distance of 15cm from a 110-volt horizontal Uviarc quartz mercury lamp for 10 hours; and of duplicate samples exposed to the sun and weather since the date indicate in column 8. Thickness of glasses, 2.3mm.

Tests of glasses that have been solarized for 6 to 8 years show that, after exposure to the summer sun for about 3 months, the transmission becomes stabilized and remains practically constant (see columns 5, 6, 7, and 8).

	Average Per Cent Transmission						
	• • • •	New	After Exposure to Lamp	Aft	er Exposu	re to Su	ın
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	•			
	•	W.		To Oct. 5, 1932	To Nov.:		
Brephos (3	68 64	50 47	57 54	56 5 3	55 52	Mar.1931 Feb.1932
Corex D	6	67	65	66	66	66	Apr.1932
*Helioglass (4 2	64 69	45 47	52 56	52 56	51 55	Dec.1929
Quartz Glass	1	92	92	92	92	92	Penne and pen day was and as as
Sunlit (3 3	72 68	47 45	55 52	55 52	54 50	Aug.1930 Apr.1932
Uviol-Jena (3 6	58 69	39 55	48 64	48 64	47 63	Apr.1929 May.1932
Vitaglass (3 3	63 55	31 29	42 38	41 36	39 35	Mar.1931 Apr.1932

Standard thickness Lustraglass transmits 15 to 20 per cent at 313mm when new (10 to 15 per cent after exposure to the sun). At 302mm, Lustraglass transmits about 2 per cent, while the special glasses, listed above, transmit upwards of 40 per cent.

^(*) Domestic distribution discontinued:

Purveyors of Special Window Glasses and Substitutes Therefor.

Celoglass Acetol Products, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware, Corex D Corning Glass Works, Corning, New York, Quartz Glass Amersil Company, Inc., Chestnut Avenue, Hillside, New Jersey, Semon Bache and Company, Greenwich and Morton Sunlit Streets, New York, N. Y. Fish-Schurman Corporation, 230 East 45th Street, Uviol-Jena New York, N. Y. Vitaglass Corporation, 220 Fifth Avenue, New Vitaglass York, N. Y., Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company, Grant Building, Vitaglass Pittsburgh, Pa., Vitapane² Arvey Corporation; 3462 North Kimball Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, Vitapane² The Dobeckmann Company, Cleveland, Ohio.

(1) Celoglass consists of a thin film of cellulose acetate covering a 1/4 inch wire mesh (RP 113).

(2) Vitapane consists of a similar film covering a 1/8 inch mesh of cotton thread.

In addition to the above purveyors, inquiry may be directed to mail order houses (Montgomery Ward; Sears Roebuck Company).

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